

Othello Neighborhood Association Meeting 7/28/09

- Parks is always full of children
- Little Myrtle Triangle needs better landscaping and maintenance.
 - But the street closure is still important to slow traffic
 - Originally had nice shrubs
 - Needs low ground cover
- Businesses are on MLK
- Othello is the Major Connector East/West
 - Area not on a grid pattern.
 - Takes a lot of car traffic East/West.
- Columbia City has a lot of walking alleys.
 - We need more walking paths in between buildings
- Worried about crowding the corners @ MLK for Safety
- Support notching back corners
- Need Connections all the way from Chief Sealth East/West to MLK
- Othello East of MLK a few blocks has poor sidewalks and the street is too wide
 - Needs improvement
 - Important for connection to Steward
- Myrtle is nice to walk down.
 - At the end of Myrtle is a nice stairway. Could be improved
- Myrtle between 42nd and 43rd not a lot of 'eyes' next to church
 - A little sketchy.
 - Graffiti
- Lighting
 - Safety and comfort
- Art is important.
 - Notion of pulling international art from the community.
 - Youth art.
- Fewer car trips
 - Could have some negative economic impacts
- Would like strong visual focus near station.
 - Better sense of arrival
 - Landscaping/open space/places to sit at each corner
 - Should be a civic space
 - Like civic space at park
- Apartments will block visual connection to the park. Might detract from civic space in park
- We do not know what will happen with private property (Safeway) so civic space at park would be better
- Research shows higher buildings creates more crime. – Against high rises and taller buildings
- Would like to know what sound Transit is going to do with all those little empty spaces
 - Needs improvement
- Food carts are good interim use
- Park and parking: People cannot come to park if they cannot park
- \$30 per month parking signs at Safeway
 - Diamond Parking – Follow up
- Interim overflow parking lot to support businesses

- One block in treatment of streetscape should be improved to support business.
- Tukwila station parking was totally full Saturday. Some people had tried to park in neighborhoods. – There will be pressure
- Restricted parking is Monday through Friday only
 - No one is parking in neighborhood Saturday and Sunday...Yet.
- Density.
 - Othello Partners
 - Concerned about the theory: If you build people will ride
 - Ridership might not be as high
- Othello identity
 - Should reflect Diversity
- Different perspective biking, walking from being in a car.
 - Bike rack in poor condition
 - Unkempt appearance
 - Heavy white markings for crossings are worn. Need to focus on little things
- Focus on maintenance with all improvements
- Huge litter problem. Need more trash receptacles
- Signature plat palette.
 - Could be expressive of culture
 - Planters/Benches would be nice
 - Exotic gardening
- Visuals are nice but won't have diversity if businesses are pushed out. Keep real diversity.
- Mobile food vending is good for diversity
- Promote business along MLK corridor and strengthen business along Othello to make it more of a place.
- Extend plantings and treatments up to Myrtle too.
 - Plantings and landscape should be low
- To make neighborhood better need to welcome people from other neighborhoods to visit and support retail.
 - Don't reject other neighborhoods.
 - Make Othello a destination to visit
- Community supported/invested in businesses to make it through construction
- Don't obscure sight lines at station
- The biggest problem is with our youth.
 - Need to reach out and connect with youth
 - Keep in mind when making plans
- General Neighborhood Goal: PRESERVE AND STRENGTHEN